

Claims

[c1] What is claimed is:

1. A method for using a software system to address multiple regulatory compliance requirements comprising a unified, ontology-based model representing both the regulatory legislation and the state of the organizations required to comply, in combination with one or more reasoning elements that operate against the model.

[c2] 2. A method of claim 1 wherein the reasoning capability is provided by the direct support of the ontology language.

[c3] 3. A method of claim 1 wherein the reasoning capability is provided by elements external to the ontology knowledgebase

[c4] 4. A method of claim 1 wherein the ontology model of the regulatory compliance legislation is automatically created by a text analysis system operating on the text of the legislation and producing elements in the knowledgebase.

[c5] 5. A method of claim 1 wherein the ontology model of the regulatory compliance legislation is automatically

updated by a text analysis system operating on the text of the legislation and producing elements in the knowledgebase.

- [c6] 6. A method of claim 1 wherein the unified model addressing the regulatory requirement is used to analyze electronic communications for compliance.
- [c7] 7. A method of claim 1 wherein the unified model addressing the regulatory requirement is used to analyze network activity for compliance.
- [c8] 8. A method of claim 1 wherein the unified model addressing the regulatory requirement is used to analyze relationships between electronic communication, and network activity for compliance.